

THE DAILY HERALD

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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THE TERRITORY CONTENTED.

The members of the plunder ring who have been and are trying to get their fingers and whole hands into the Territorial treasury, are forever howling because the Territory does not appropriate for the maintenance of the Penitentiary and its convicts. The law-makers probably understand their business quite as well as do these fellows who are so anxious to handle some of the public money. It was this same ring which induced Congress to take the Penitentiary, as well as the business of administering the criminal laws from the hands of the people; the trick was played so cunningly that it acted as a boomerang, flying back on Congress and bringing no relief to the spoilers. Government having taken charge of the "pen" as well as assumed to "run" the courts, the people quietly submit and humbly watch the circus. The government and the ring wanted to dance, and the Territory concluded that those who tripped the light fantastic should pay for the fiddling. The result has been that for ten years the government has had the Penitentiary and the courts, and has enjoyed the luxury of paying for both. At first the threat was made that if the Legislature did not appropriate to these institutions the per diem of the members would be withheld; the law-makers were equal to the occasion—they went without their pay, and the government mob of hungry officials got no money from the Territorial treasury. Since then the nation's book-keepers have contented themselves with keeping accounts with Utah annually charging the Territory with the money that it costs to maintain the Territorial prisoners. The account is being out-layed as the days run, and might as well be carried to "profit and loss." Congress and the courts can do many things, but they cannot compel a Legislature to appropriate money for any purpose, nor can they get money out of a Territorial treasury without an appropriation. While the government denies to the people the right to spend their own money in their own way and under their own supervision, the people will simply refuse to spend their money, and if the nation doesn't like it it can take its satisfaction in book-keeping and charging whatever it feels disposed to against the Territory, while the hungry claps who thought they were going to get their fingers into the Territorial treasury will have to chew their disappointment instead. As the government has refused to let the Territory own a penitentiary, or to deal with her criminals the Territory very properly declines to support the nation's penitentiary, or pay the expenses of controlling convicts.

Now go on with your squealing.

THE FEE INDUSTRY.

Can anything be brought forward as an excuse for taking the man Hansen and the band of witnesses before Commissioner McKay on Thursday, the Grand Jury being in session? That is to say, can any reasonable excuse be presented? The proceeding has all the appearance of a fee fraud on the government to the amount of the fees charged against the government by the District Attorney, the Marshal and the Commissioner. The proceeding before the Commissioner will cost the national treasury perhaps \$50 or \$75, which sum will be divided between the three worthies who are doing such a thrifty business in fees. That the expenditure of the money, whatever it may be, was unnecessary is proven by the circumstance that while the needless preliminary investigation was going on before the Commissioner, the Grand Jury took the case and the witnesses from the Commissioner and went on with the inquiry as if the matter had not been previously touched. Hansen's witnesses might as well have been taken before the Grand Jury on Thursday or Friday morning, without ever having seen the Commissioner, for they would necessarily have to go before the inquisitors after the Commissioner had gotten through with them. But if this honest, straightforward and legitimate course had been pursued, Mr. Dickson would have been out the \$5 or \$10 that he will get for attending the inquiry before the Commissioner. Mr. Ireland and his deputies would not have received the \$25 or \$30 which the fees and mileage involved in serving the subpoenas, attendance in court, etc., and Mr. McKay would have lost the \$10 or \$15 that he will get for

issuing warrants and subpoenas, holding court, swearing witnesses, and so on. This Hansen case illustrates as plainly as it can be done the crookedness and wickedness of this fee-getting industry that is being worked with so much success and profit by the Federal officials named above. How much money the trio have already been able to take from the treasury through the little game is not known; but it will be remembered that in the Supreme Court, the other day, this same Commissioner presented a bill for something in the neighborhood of \$1,500, and the Commissioner's fees, while they are about equal to those of the District Attorney, are nothing like so large in the aggregate as those of the Marshal and his deputies.

IMPUDENT MONOPOLY.

"Gath," the well known correspondent, has been talking to Norvin Green, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, condemning the affairs of the Corporation. Among other things Dr. Green told him that "We have paid \$23,000,000 in dividends since we bought up the American Union Telegraph Company four years and a half ago. We have paid seven per cent. dividends." Dr. Green refers to this as a grand financial achievement, and doubtless takes pride in his management, but other people look upon the business as a tremendous steal. The W. U. officials express surprise when complaint is made against the tariffs, and point to the fact that rates have been steadily reduced as an argument that the company is kind and considerate towards the public. While pointing to the downward sale of prices, however, they do not tell you that the charges are still three or four times what they should be, in order that dividends may be paid on watered stock. It is estimated by those who should know that the capital stock of the Western Union company is five parts water to one part of actual substance; that is to say, the company's plant could to-day be duplicated for one-sixth of the sum of the capital stock; hence, a dividend of seven per cent. is in fact a dividend of thirty-five per cent., or very nearly three per cent. per month on the actual investment. No one would complain about paying seven per cent. interest to the men who put their money into the Western Union; the objection is to the payment of thirty-five per cent. annually; just as no one would ever be heard to complain if the Bell Telephone company asked only seven per cent. in its investment, but when it comes to compelling its patrons to pay from 10 to 200 per cent. in the actual outlay of the company, there is grumbling.

NEPOTISM.

It isn't a very striking instance of nepotism, but it is good enough for the St. Louis Post Dispatch to sustain its allegation with that the Missouri Senators are guilty of nepotism. It is this, that Mr. Hugh C. Wallace, the new Receiver of Public Money in this city, is a relative of Senator Cockrell, the relation being that the first wife of Mr. Wallace's father, was a cousin of Senator Cockrell's first wife. Relations that goes to so fine a point as that noted above is not dangerously near. The fact that Mr. Wallace is connected with the family of Senator Cockrell is not cause for objection to the appointment, nor can it be said as yet that the gentleman is anything but thoroughly competent, but there is cause for complaint, and it is found in the fact that Mr. Wallace is a citizen of Missouri or of Idaho, and not of Utah. President Cleveland subscribed to the party platform which said that the Federal offices in the Territories should be filled by bona fide residents of the dependencies, and while there are local citizens who are qualified to perform the duties of the offices, who are honest and who believe in the political principles of the party in power, no appointments of this character should be made from the outside, no matter what may be the relationship between the appointees and influential persons in the nation. We have no objections to present against Mr. Wallace, but there is objection, well taken, to his appointment while Utah has good Democrats who would make as good and faithful Receivers as he.

If things continue as they are going for three years more, the Republicans and mugwumps will nominate Cleveland for President at their convention in June, 1888, but they'll not elect him, provided Col. Vilas, the Postmaster-General, will resign from the Cabinet in time to be available for the Democratic National Convention in July. A thorough and through Democrat, whose party integrity had been tried and found not wanting, would sweep the country against all opposition, and especially against a mugwump with Republican leanings. The people's hunger for a Democratic Administration spurred them to action last summer and autumn, and they thought their desires were gratified; the discovery that they have been imposed upon, and the further wait of four years will only make it certain that they will win next time, when there will be no mistake as to the Democracy of their President.

THE HER sends will certainly have to go.

O. J. HOLLISTER'S BOOK.

How Far the "Story of the Life of Colfax" has Progressed.

Ex-Collector Hollister, who returned from a long visit east on Thursday night, was met by a Herald reporter, yesterday, and asked for some particulars concerning the work he is now engaged upon, the "Life of Schuyler Colfax." He replied that there was little to be said except that he had been putting in eleven hours a day for most of the time since he had been gone, at the home of Mr. Colfax's widow, in South Bend; the lady felt the death of her husband very keenly, but the presence of Mrs. Hollister, who is sister to Mr. Colfax, had helped to assuage her grief. "I should not thought of entering upon the work of writing Mr. Colfax's life," said Mr. Hollister, "had it not been for the strongly expressed wishes of his wife. It is at her request that I have commenced it. I have gone over chestful after chestful of letters which the deceased left behind him, burning those which were of no moment, and retaining such as might be of value. I have been enabled to obtain many letters written by Mr. Colfax, but there are many, such as those he wrote to Lincoln, which are not yet in my hands."

Asked as to the character of the book, Mr. Hollister said it would be simply a story of Colfax's life, neither statistical nor critical in style; he had not gotten so far along as having his publisher secured as yet, as he had to complete his manuscript first; he should make, he thought, a book which would sell for about \$2. Some idea of how busily Mr. Hollister has been employed, may be gleaned from the reflection that during his visit he has not had time to write a single anti-Mormon effusion to the Tribune, something unheard of in the history of his previous absences.

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